



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

3530 W. Orchard Court ~ Visalia, CA 93277
Phone: (559) 622-0378 ~ fax (559) 636-3277

14 January 2015

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Stan Noble, Warren Hutchings, Walt Bentley, Scott Powell

Staff: Teri Van Huss, David Witt

NRCS: Genett Carstensen, Joe Williams, Bonnie Eyestone

Guest: David Shy, CALFIRE

The meeting was called to order by Warren Hutchings, 12:19 p.m.

Review minutes: The minutes were reviewed from 12/17. Scott moved to approve, Stan seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financial report for 1/14 was reviewed. Stan moved and Scott seconded to approve the financials. The accounts payable list is approved for payment.

New Business:

CDFA Water Efficiency grants: Correspondence from Karen Buhl regarding the MIL program needed to do the inspections.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Warren reported that CA F&W has \$200 Million earmarked for watershed conservancy. He and Scott met with Allen Ishida, BoS, to brainstorm ways to communicate the needs of our watershed.

GRAP – Bob attended the public meeting in SLO (his report was emailed) – extension of Irrigated Lands to unirrigated lands. They are listening to comments but it's scheduled to be adopted in 2016. This is the time to stay involved to guide the direction as best we can.

Updates

Johnsondale FB – David presented a project map showing where we are working, the majority of the mastication is done and there are a few piles to burn. The project, totaling 128 acres, should be completed in April.

CalFire concept proposals – David brought a list of 9 projects that are moving on the Phase 2 of the proposal phase. Projects range from community chipping days to updating previous fuel breaks to doing new fuel break areas.

Weed Management Area – Scott reported meeting with Allen Ishida regarding the transfer of the WMA equipment to the RCD. Allen is starting the process of working with Jim Sullins to have the equipment donated.

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NRCS: Joe introduced Bonnie who will be working with the ranchers on wildlife, grazing, and watershed issues. Still in the midst of EQIP, funding is happening in batches now, a new process. Bonnie works with a project called Point Blue.

Public Comment Period:

Javier Aguirre presented an idea for a Small Farm Development proposal and asked the RCD to be a fiscal agent, they agreed.

Teri reported that our physical location will change in about a month. Our host, the Urban Tree Foundation, is purchasing a building at 1512 W. Mineral King. It will be a big improvement.

Correspondence:

Publications from the CSDA.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:43 p.m. The next meeting will be on February 18, 2015 due to the annual conflict with the Farm Show.

Respectfully submitted, Teri Van Huss